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A new species of *Minixi* GIORDANI SOIKA, 1978 from Argentina (Hymenoptera, Vespidae, Eumeninae)

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A b s t r a c t : A new species of the genus *Minixi* collected in Argentina is described and illustrated. A modification of the key to the species of the genus is provided.

K e y w o r d s : Eumeninae, *Minixi*, new species, Argentina.

Introduction

The genus *Minixi* was established along with *Pachyminixi* by GIORDANI SOIKA (1978) to accommodate species included in *Eumenes* LATREILLE, *Pachymenes* DE SAUSSURE, and *Nortonia* DE SAUSSURE. These changes were part of a splitting of genera carried out by Giordani Soika for the Neotropical region.

Recently, *Pachyminixi* has been recognized as a junior synonym of *Minixi* by HERMES & OLIVEIRA (2016), that described in the same paper a new species and provided a new identification key to known species of the genus. At present the genus contains 11 species found from southern United States to Argentina.

In a small package of South-American Eumeninae the author found a single male specimen collected in Argentina that was revealed to be a new species of the genus. The new species is here described and illustrated and the key provided by HERMES & OLIVEIRA is modified to include the new species.

Material and methods

The holotype is housed at the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Venezia (MSNVE).

The morphological terminology follows HERMES & OLIVEIRA (2016).

Abbreviations used are as follows:

T= metasomal terga;

S= metasomal sterna;

F= flagellomeres.

Systematic

Minixi atrum nov.sp. (Figs 1-5)

T y p e m a t e r i a l : Holotype ♂: Argentina, Mendoza, Potrerillos, 32.951° S 69.204° W, 8-11.i.2013, leg. K. Tomkovich.

Description

M a l e : Clypeus longer than wide, weakly convex, apical teeth briefly carinate, apical margin moderately emarginated, emargination 3x wide as deep. Labrum subquadrate, with apical margin broadly truncate. Temples angularly projecting in dorsal view. F VII-IX with slender tyloids, F XI pointed apically and long, slightly exceeding base of F IX. Anterior carina of pronotum well developed, right-angled on humeri, transiction between dorsal and lateral faces weakly angled, pronotum in dorsal view subquadrate. Scutellum convex, oblique in lateral view. Metanotum almost entirely vertical, with a narrow horizontal face. Propodeum swollen dorsolaterally in dorsal view. T I in dorsal view slender, thin basally, expanding in the middle and then parallel sided to the apex, slightly expanding towards apex in lateral view. T II longer than wide, expanding in basal half, then weakly convex, apical margin with a short translucent lamella.

Clypeus densely micropunctate, with few scattered shallow bigger punctures. Frons and thorax, except metaepisternum, with very dense flat-bottomed punctures. Vertex, genae and apical half of T I punctured like frons and thorax, but punctures sparser and smaller. Metaepisternum and basal half of T I without punctures. T II with fine and deep punctures, very sparse basally, becoming denser on lateral and apical margins. T III-VII punctured like apical margin of T II. S II-VII with very sparse shallow punctures.

Black; following parts pale yellow: small spot on genae behind dorsal lobe of eye, apical margins of T I-II, small elongate spots on posterior corners of S II; following parts orange: F I-III and F IX-X beneath and F XI entirely.

Body length (Head + Thorax + T I-II) 7 mm.

E t y m o l o g y . The specific name, *atrum* (= black), is in reference to the almost wholly black coloration of this species.

D i a g n o s i s . The new species comes close to *M. mariachii* HERMES & OLIVEIRA, 2016, for the dorsolaterally swollen propodeum and the T I slender in dorsal view, but is clearly different for the following characters: punctation of head and thorax bigger and denser, made by big flat-bottomed punctures, apical emargination of male clypeus deeper, T I parallel sided in apical half, T I in lateral view less expanded towards apex, pale markings reduced to pale yellow apical margins of T I-II.

Modified key to species of *Minixi*

Propodeum strongly swollen dorsolaterally.....2
Propodeum not swollen dorsolaterally 8
T I slender in dorsal view 2a
T I wide in dorsal view.....3

2a Head and thorax with dense big flat-bottomed punctures; apical emargination of male clypeus deeper; T I with apical half parallel sided; pale yellow markings reduced to apical margin of T I-II ..... *M. atrum* nov.sp.

Head and thorax with sparser and smaller punctures; apical emargination of male clypeus shallower; T I with apical half with divergent sides; vivid yellow markings more extensive and present on head and thorax too ..... *M. mariachii* HERMES & OLIVEIRA

Zusammenfassung

Vorliegende Arbeitbeschreibt eine neue Art der Gattung *Minixi* aus Argentinien. Ein Schlüssel zur Bestimmung der Arten ergänzt die Arbeit.

References

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Figs 1-5: *Minixi atrum* nov. sp.: habitus (**1**); head in frontal view (**2**); antenna in lateral view (**3**); detail of punctation of mesoscutum (**4**); T I in dorsal view (**5**).